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Sur l'ontogénèse du cervelet. E. LAHOUSSÉ. Bull. de l'académie royale de Méd. de Belgique, IV Série, I, 4, p. 378; Rapport officiel délivré par M. Rommelaere.

The author has found that the histological differentiation of the spinal cord precedes that of the cerebellum. Ganglion cells, neuroglia and nerve fibres form a united whole. The axis cylinder develops later and in a different manner from the rest of the nerve, namely, from the paraplasma. These results were obtained from the study of sections in the adult and developing chick.

Beitrag zur Anatomie des Taubstummengehirns. J. WALDSCHMIDT. Allg. Zeitschr. f. Psychiatrie, XLIII, 4, 5, S. 373.

In a deaf mute forty-six years of age, who could not write, the weight of the brain was 1440 grams. Operculum gyr. front. inf. and gyr. temp. III. were somewhat less developed on the left side. The left island was much less developed and less convoluted than the right.

The brain of a deaf mute girl, nineteen years of age, also showed the principal difference in the island. In both cases the limen insulae was not prominent. The author lays most weight on the convoluting of the island. In four brains of those not deaf mute (among them two of university instructors), the left island was found decidedly more developed than the right. From which it follows that the deaf-mutism is not necessarily connected with the atrophy of the operculum and the associated parts.

Die anthropologische Bedeutung der frontalen Gehirnentwicklung, nebst Untersuchungen über den Windungstypus des Hinterhauptsappens und pathologischen Wägungsresultaten der menschlichen Hirnlappen. TH. MEYNERT. Jahrb. f. Psychiatrie, VII.

The view of Munk that the frontal lobes are the motor centres for the trunk, and that of Hitzig that they are the seat of logical thought, are both rejected by the author. The weight of the frontal lobe in the percent. of the entire brain mantle is: For man, 42 per cent; ape, 35 per cent; dog, 32 per cent; bear, 30 per cent; a result which gives hardly a satisfactory basis for the view of Hitzig. The increased development of the frontal lobes is mainly due to the increased height of the lenticular nucleus and the island. On the other hand it should be borne in mind that the temporal lobe is proportionately as much developed in man as the frontal. In the carnivora it is the parietal, in the apes the occipital, and in man the frontal lobes which are most developed. The peculiar form of the human brain is due to the upright position in man. The paper contains much other matter bearing on the relative development and separation of the lobes.

Ueber die Localization der Gehirnkrankheiten. H. NOTHNAGEL. Verdl. d. VI. Congresses für innere Medicin zu Wiesbaden, 1887.

N. argues for a moderately detailed localization. In the case of the eye, lesion of the cuneus and the first occipital convolution O₁ causes a hemiopia of the retinal halves on the same side. Injury to the adjacent parts of the cortex causes psychical blindness (Seelenblindheit), or, when excited, hallucinations and the like.

He finds no good evidence for the detailed localization of the retinal elements. It is always a question of hemiopia, with one poorly observed case, where an eighth of the visual field was involved, as an exception.

The author's views on the localization of vision in the cortex are as follows: 1. The cuneus and the O_i form the field for visual perception. Their lesion on one side causes hemiopia; on both, complete blindness. 2. The remaining occipital cortex is the seat of the visual pictures (*Erinnerungsbilder*). The limits here are very uncertain. 3. If on one side the cuneus, O_i, and the other part of the occipital region are thrown out of function while, on the other side, the occipital cortex, with the exception of the cuneus and O_i, are thrown out, then there occurs, corresponding to the former lesion, hemiopia and, to the latter, psychical blindness.

The author points out that in the case of the complete cortical paralysis of an arm, for example, patients can often, with the eyes closed, imitate with the sound arm the position in which the paralyzed one is placed. Starting from this fact, the author reaches, as the conclusion of an argument, the view that the centre for what is designated as the muscle sense is in the parietal lobe, while the sensations from the skin are centered in the motor region, about the central convolutions.

The name "psychomotor" for the centres about the central convolutions, for example, is not satisfactory, because a patient with cortical paralysis is capable of the mental process of willing the movement of a part but cannot carry out the operation, hence the psychical progress cannot go on in the part which is destroyed and causes the paralysis. The motor centres of the authors are neither the places where the impulse originates, nor even the place where these impulses are co-ordinated, but merely spots at which they pass over to the coronal fibres. The parietal lobe is to be considered as bearing the same relation to these motor centres that the part of the occipital lobe about the cuneus and O_i does to the visual centre itself. The author considers this view capable of extension.

I mielociti e il pensiero. C. GOLGI. Arch. di Psichiatria, VIII, S. 206.

Pouchet has recently advanced the view that the psychical operations did not take place in the nerve cells proper, but in the small cells, 5-6 μ . in diameter, described by Robin under the name of myelocysts. Against this view Golgi argues that the cells in question have not been proved to be nervous. Pouchet further surmises that each neuro-epithelial element, as in the retina, for instance, is in connection with one of these myelocysts, and then proceeds to calculate that the perception of a moderate-sized object, e. g. a letter "X," would at most bring into activity a quantity of gray substance equal to 660 cubic millimeters. Golgi points out that independent cells and groups of cells do not exist in the central nervous system, and that we have no data for placing a limit to the spread of a stimulus.

Physiologische und mikrochemische Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Nervenzellen in den peripherischen Ganglien. ANNA KOTLAREWSKY. Inaugural Dissertation, Bern, 1887.

Following Ehrlich's method, the author has stained the ganglia in the living animal. The small cells stained more intensely than the large, and the reaction appeared to be neutral or slightly alkaline.